DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION

As a below-named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventors (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention **COMPOSITE RISER**, the specification of which

XX	is attached hereto.
	was filed on
	as Application Serial No.
	and was amended on
	(If Applicable)

I hereby state that we have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendments referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56, copy attached.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign	Application(s)		Priority Claimed	
Number	Country	Day/Month/Year	(Yes)	(No)
Number	Country	Day/Month/Year	(Yes)	(No)
Number	Country	Day/Month/Year	(Yes)	(No)
Number	Country	Day/Month/Year	(Yes)	(No)

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

Application Ser. No.	Filing Date	 Status	
Application Ser. No.	Filing Date	Status	

I further declare that I do not know and do not believe that the invention claimed in this application was ever known or used by others in this country before my invention thereof, or patented or described in any printed publication in any country before my invention thereof, or more than one year prior to this application or any prior U.S. application above identified in which said invention may have been disclosed, or in public use or on sale in the United States of America for more than one year prior to this application or any prior U.S. application above identified in which said invention may have been disclosed.

POWER OF ATTORNEY

And I hereby appoint as my attorneys with full power of substitution to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith the following individual members and/or associates and/or counsel of the firm of

REISING, ETHINGTON, BARNES, KISSELLE, LEARMAN & McCULLOCH, P.C.

P.O. Box 4390

Troy, Michigan 48099-4390

Phone: (248) 689-3500 Fax: (248) 689-4071

to which address please send all correspondence concerning this application:

Attorney	Reg No.	Attorney	Reg. No.	
Edward J. Biskup	18,987	John F. Learman	17,069	
Robert C. Collins	27,430	John K. McCulloch	17,452	
Paul J. Ethington	17,299	John P. Moran	20,941	
John C. Evans	20,124	Steven L. Permut	28,388	
Robert L. Farris	25,112	Matthew J. Schmidt	43,904	
Francis J. Fodale	20,824	William J. Schramm	24,795	
William H. Francis	25,335	Robert L. Stearns	36,937	
William H. Griffith	16,706	James D. Stevens	35,691	
Andrew M. Grove	39,697	William J. Waugaman	20,304	
Richard W. Hoffmann	33,711	Charles R. White	20,494	
Eric T. Jones	40,037		ŕ	

Received Nov-20-00 10:58am Nov-20-00 11:06 From-

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full name of first joint inventor	Albert	Α	Andrews		
that name or everyone account	First	Middle	Last		
Inventor's Signature	see se	parate sheet			
Date					
Residence	Clayeland, Tennessee				
Cirizenship	United States				
Post Office Address	2022 Greenfield Ave				
_	Cleveland.	Tennesser 37312			
- a distribution and a	Spencer		Land		
Full name of second joint inventor _	First	Middle	Lust		
		\mathcal{L}			
Inventor's Signature	Sper	icer da		·	
Date _	12/10	100		<u>,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,</u>	
Residence _	Henderson, Nevada				
Citizenship _	United States				
Post Office Address	1908 Ginort Court				
_	Henderson, Nevada 89014				
Full name of third joint inventor	First	Middle	Last		
Inventor's Signature					
Date _					
Residence _					
Citizenship .				-	
Post Office Address					
				<u></u>	
				•	

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full name of first joint inventor	Albert	A	Andrews ·		
	First	Middle	Last		
Inventor's Signature	- Com	J. W	acco-		
Date		4-00	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
Residence	Cleveland,	ennessee			
Citizenship	United States				
Post Office Address	2022 Greentield Ave				
	Cleveland, 7	ennessee 37312			
Full name of second joint inventor	Spencer		Land		
	First	Middle	Last		
inventor's Signature					
Date					
Residence	Henderson, Nevada				
Citizenship	United State	<u> </u>			
Post Office Address	1908 Ginori Court				
	Henderson, Nevada 89014				
Full name of third joint inventor					
	First	Middle	Last		
Inventor's Signature					
Date					
Residence			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
Citizenship					
Post Office Address			·		
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- (a) A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is cancelled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned. Information material to the patentability of a claim that is cancelled or withdrawn from consideration need not be submitted if the information is not material to the patentability of any claim remaining under consideration in the application. There is no duty to submit information which is not material to the patentability of any existing claim. The duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability is deemed to be satisfied if all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in a patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§ 1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98. However, no patent will be granted on an application in connection with which fraud on the Office was practiced or attempted or the duty of disclosure was violated through bad faith or intentional misconduct. The Office encourages applicants to carefully examine:
- (1) prior art cited in search reports of a foreign patent office in a counterpart application; and
- (2) the closest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application believe any pending claim patentably defines, to make sure that any material information contained therein is disclosed to the Office.
- (b) Under this section, information is material to patentability when it is not cumulative to information already of record or being made of record in the application, and
- (1) It establishes, by itself or in combination with other information, a prima facie case of unpatentability of a claim; or
 - (2) It refutes, or is inconsistent with, a position the applicant takes in:
 - (i) Opposing an argument of unpatentability relied on by the Office, or
 - (ii) Asserting an argument of patentability.
- A prima facie case of unpatentability is established when the information compels a conclusion that a claim is unpatentable under the preponderance of evidence, burden-of-proof standard, giving each term in the claim its broadest reasonable construction consistent with the specification, and before any consideration is given to evidence which may be submitted in an attempt to establish a contrary conclusion of patentability.
- (c) Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are:
 - (1) Each inventor named in the application;
 - (2) Each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and
- (3) Every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application.
- (d) Individuals other than the attorney, agent or inventor may comply with this section by disclosing information to the attorney, agent or inventor.

(35 U.S.C. 6, Pub. L. 97-247)

[42 FR 5593. Jan. 28, 1977, as amended at 47 FR 21751, May 19, 1982; 48 FR 2710, Jan. 20, 1983; 49 FR 554, Jan. 4, 1984; 50 FR 5171, Feb. 6, 1985; 53 FR 47808, Nov. 28, 1988, effective Jan. 1, 1989; 57 FR 2034, January 17, 1992, effective March 6, 1992]

ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, we, ALBERT A. ANDREWS and SPENCER D. LAND have

invented certain improvements in a COMPOSITE RISER, for which we have made application

for Letters Patent of the United States of America as follows:

Serial No. 09/745,661

Filed: December 21, 2000

AND, WHEREAS, SPENCO, a corporation organized and existing under the

laws of the State of Tennessee, and having a place of business at P. O. Box 1295, Dunlap, TN

37327 is desirous of acquiring the entire right, title and interest in and to said invention and said

application;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of One Dollar (\$1.00) and other good and

valuable consideration, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, we, Albert A. Andrews and

Spender D. Land, by these presents, do hereby sell, assign and transfer unto the said corporation

and its assigns, for the territory of the United States of America and all foreign countries, the

entire right, title and interest, including all priority rights under the International Convention

associated with each country of the Union, in and to said invention as described in said

application, and in and to said application Serial No. 09/745,661, filed December 21, 2000, and

any Letters Patent that may be granted in pursuance of said application and any divisional,

continuation or continuation-in-part application thereof, and in and to any reissue or re-

examination of any such patent, and in and to any patent applications which may be filed on said

invention in countries foreign to the United States and any Letters Patent granted thereon.

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We further authorize said corporation to apply for foreign patents on said invention in its own name or through its designees, including subsidiaries, related companies or assignees, under the International Convention or otherwise, and we further agree to execute all papers, including those required for the United States and foreign applications, and to perform such other proper acts as said corporation may deem necessary to secure to said corporation or its designees the rights herein assigned.

State of Tennessee

ss:

County of Sequatchie

On this 8th day of Movember, 2001, before me, a Notary Public in and for said County, personally appeared Albert A. Andrews and Spender D. Land, to me known to be the persons who executed the above instrument and acknowledged the same to be their free act and deed.

[Notary Seal]

Notary Public

State of Tennessee--County of Sequatchie

My comm. expires: 2/18/02

Reising, Ethington, Barnes, Kisselle, Learman & McCulloch, P.C. P. O. Box 4390 Troy, MI 48099-4390